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**Saturday, December 1, 2012**

**December 1st**

**World AIDS Day**

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## On Sunday Oranjestad becomes a Window to Art!

On Sunday, December 2nd several instances in Oranjestad will offer the general public the opportunity to make acquaintance from close up with the rich creative past of Aruba. A public bus will begin running from 10:30 in the morning between 7 locations in the city where visitors can get off and enjoy an exposition, workshop or lecture. Then eat and drink something - wait for the bus and move on to the next destination.

The route offers a ride to "Happy Islands" which is one of the expositions of our first Bienale of Aruba. Artists like Ryan Oduber, Ciro Abath and Nelson Gonzalez will be present to give the public a tour through the exposition, which is a "must see!"

Ciro Abath's art piece, for example, is a fantastic installation which captures the attention of big and small. You will see art works from artists hailing from Jamaica, Barbados and Santo Domingo to complete the works of art at the Free Zone. At the Small Wharf the bus will stop for the Stichting Rancho activity where Colombian and Aruban food will be offered as well as a demonstration of traditional Wayuu.

Another bus stop will be at the offices of the representative of Holland in Aruba (VNO). There you will see the "One Happy Kingdom" exposition with paintings, sculptures, video and much more. Elvis Tromp, Stan Kuiperi and Glenda Heyliger are among some of the artists who will have works of art on display here.

UNOCA in the Stadionweg is the host of our own Belinda de Veer. The general public will be able to chat with those knowledgeable about the work of Belinda and UNOCA. There will be a small treat for all visitors.

You don't want to miss the exposition in the Ateliers' 89 named "Linked." Artists like Kevin Schuit, Pricilla Laclé and Cado Lannoy will present



**Obra Artista Ciro Abath na Freezone**

installations, video, photography and other art expressions. This presentation received accolades from the Dutch Kingdom and from the region with many youthful visitors to its halls. Director Elvis Lopez will be on hand to provide information about the works of art. Atelier '89 opens at 4:00 pm.

Aruba's rich heritage will be seen at the Museo Archaeologico and Museo Historico. At this last stop there will be a temporary exposition of mannequins from Rita Maasdamme showing the historic and pre-historic periods of Aruba.

The bus begins running at 10:30 in the morning after the



**Obra di Arte di artista Belinda de Veer**

unveiling of the canoa at the Museo Archaeologico. All the trips in the bus are completely gratuito. And no entrees fees at any of the expositions.



**Fireworks explode over the Sydney Opera House to mark World AIDS Day. Organizers announced that Sydney was the first of dozens of cities around the globe to observe the day by illuminating major landmarks with red lights.**

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## Assailants against our economy to be severely punished



ORANJESTAD -- An assault or other crime committed against a tourist is considered an assault against the economy of Aruba, and for this the Public Prosecutor has requested and the Judge will levy much stiffer punishment, according to Aruba Minister of Justice Arthur Dowers. The Minister reported that the camera visibility project planned for the hotel strip will increase security in the hotel and surrounding area. This project's objective will be to prevent crime.

In the case of the assault on two tourists which took place last Tuesday evening, the Minister reported that the Police

have informed him that they have all the necessary information and are finalizing the investigation. It is a serious matter and deeply lamentable when people commit these acts and do such damage to our economy.

The Minister reported that this past week he attended different meetings with different groups and hotel representatives. He complimented the hotels for their increase on security and that they are working with the Police Force on security procedures. At the same time he lamented that there is one hotel that is not doing anything on the matter of security. He hopes to meet with representatives of that hotel to discuss this matter further.

With respect to the recent assault and other incidents, various persons have already been detained and several more will be apprehended soon. All in all, the police and the entire justice system is intent on proceeding with a heavy hand on all and any type of crime particularly related to our valuable visitors on the island.

## ELMAR's Solar Panel Kits have arrived!

The Solar Panel Kits ordered by our local electric distribution company, ELMAR, have arrived on the island, and sales are progressing well. They have already sold kits to five families! The interest in solar energy has increased considerably and many people are requesting more information. ELMAR is convinced that there is a good future ahead in the solar energy and they are intent on providing the island the best possible product and ample service.

ELMAR's Solar Panels are the ASP brand produced in the USA. They have chosen this particular brand for its remarkably high quality. These panels have international certification. They are certified to withstand Aruba's salty air. The manufacturer guarantees each panel for 25 years and ELMAR will be the mediator in the event of a claim.

There are four options designed to fit every house in accordance with their electric consumption. Financing is possible through a special deal of 7% with CMB. For more information, clients should contact Freddy Vargas at [j.vargas@elmar.aw](mailto:j.vargas@elmar.aw) or call telephone 523-7100 ext. 139.



System capacity	Introductory price excluding installation, and exl BBO	Production kWh/month	Roof area in m2	Amount of panels needed
2.5 kWp	10.975,27	375	16	10
5.0 kWp	21.950,53	750	32	20
7.5 kWp	32.925,80	1125	48	30
10.0 kWp	43.901,07	1500	64	40

ELMAR is intent on providing excellent service and in creating added value for their clients and the general community. For ELMAR it is important that the community have access to solar energy at an affordable and competitive price. In the long run this will help reduce the expense on electricity and make us more conscious of our energy consumption.

## Deadly 2012 Atlantic storm season officially ends

MIAMI (AFP) - The dreaded Atlantic hurricane season drew to a close on Friday, ending an active chapter that included the particularly devastating Hurricane Sandy, which wrought havoc in the northeastern US.

Only one named storm this year reached the strength

to officially classify it as a "major hurricane, which was the major storm Michael, which built to category three status but stayed far from land.

Sandy, in contrast, caused tens of billions of dollars of damage and killed at least 59 in the Caribbean and more

than 110 in the US, mainly while churning at category one status and after it transitioned into a post-tropical storm.

Overall, there were 19 named storms in 2012, well above the seasonal average of 12, NOAA said.

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**Monday Balloon Raffle \$500,- Earn DOUBLE POINTS all day**

**Tuesday Balloon Raffle \$500,- Black Jack Tournament \$500**

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# Saturday

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## All ages are invited to enjoy a visit with Sinterklaas at Rembrandt Café

## InselAir Aruba, new Airline in Aruba



The cozy Rembrandt Café in South Beach Centre has a distinctly Dutch ambiance, reminiscent of an authentic pub from the "old country." The coming few days are the height of Sinterklaas season, and both adults and children are invited to celebrate with Rembrandt Café this festive occasion.

The fun begins this evening at 5:00 PM with a special three-course menu, including a surprise Sinterklaas beverage, for only \$27.50. The venerable gentleman and his Swarte Pieten will be on hand to welcome "all good boys and girls." Great live entertainment

begins at 11:00 PM with popular local band Mystical Connection, continuing until the wee hours.

From Sunday on, island children are invited to come to Rembrandt during regular hours from noon to closing, to drop of a shoe as is traditional of the holiday; this will continue through Tuesday. On Wednesday December 5, beginning at 2:00 PM, Sinterklaas and his Swarte Pieten will be at Rembrandt Café to greet all the youngsters who have deposited a shoe, returning it to them filled with special treats. The restaurant is



hosting an afternoon-long party for all those retrieving their footwear, in honor of Sinterklaas's feast day.

Aruba and Rembrandt Café have a great affection for their Dutch traditions, of which the annual visit of Sinterklaas is a particularly treasured event. Enjoy it fully with Rembrandt staff and management, who aim to make it a memorable time for all their patrons. They know you never get to old to enjoy a visit from Sinterklaas!



ORANJESTAD - By placing his signature on the Air Operating Certificate, Minister Otmar Oduber officially recognized InselAir Aruba as the newest airline of Aruba.

For over 18 months InselAir Aruba worked on the creation of a new airline in Aruba which aims to promote tourism in Aruba by operating new routes.

In a meeting between Minister Oduber and InselAir in 2011 it was discussed what would be the best way to promote tourism to Aruba. In this meeting it was decided that the Aruban airlines each would strive to operate to different destinations, so that maximum output is achieved from those destinations for Aruba.

Following this discussion, InselAir included several destinations, not yet covered by an Aruban airline before. Thus InselAir focuses on cities like

Manaus, Brasilia, Guayaquil, Medellin, Valencia, ensuring during its growth to reach at least a total of 15 international destinations. It is also important that InselAir serves as a feeder airline in order to serve its European, Caribbean and North American code share and Interline partners via Aruba that will have a function as an international hub.

Minister Oduber expressed confidence in the new carrier and indicated that with the start of InselAir Aruba, a new dimension to tourism in Aruba has been added. Especially because of the many collaborations of InselAir with other airlines, the growth of the Aruban tourism by transporting tourists from new destinations to Aruba will be a fact. This will also lead to much more awareness of Aruba by potential visitors in the region and beyond.



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## Up for adrenaline? Holiday Inn Resort Aruba goes Green!



"Going Green" is more than just a saying, it is essential to the success as a hotel, and our role in corporate responsibility, as well as our collective well-being as a planet and for the island. At the Holiday Inn Resort Aruba they recognize the impact of the business on the environment and are committed to conducting the business in a way that ensures environmental sustainability. All Hotels pertaining to the IHG Group are members of the Green Engage.

The Green Engage program is to reduce the Hotel's carbon footprint by monitoring the use of water, electricity and the amount of waste materials produced. All staff are reminded daily to: Refuse, Reuse, Re-

duce and Recycle.

Holiday Inn is Resort Aruba is dedicated in balancing their commitment to the Green Policy without compromising on the comfort, standards and enjoyment of its Guests. Holiday Inn Resort Aruba believes that environmental sustainability means good business! That's why they are proud to be a leader in "greening" the hospitality industry in Aruba adding brand new premium bike's as an amenity for their Guests.

All Guests that stays on property with the Holiday Inn, can enjoy a complimentary thrilling bike ride or take a spin along Palm Beach on the low-impact biking trails which will leave them invigorated.

## Hospital officials respond to concern of tuberculosis case on Aruba



Dr. Schwengle



Dr. Jaime Falconi

HIV/AIDS related, a principal reason why the disease is on the rise globally, nor have they been of the strain that is antibiotic-resistant. Among the cases that have been diagnosed, a greater percentage has been among individuals from depressed economies who have stayed on the island illegally.

The doctors explained that Pulmonary Tuberculosis (TB) is caused by the bacteria *Mycobacterium tuberculosis* (M. tuberculosis). This is called primary TB. This can be contracted by breathing in air droplets from a cough or sneeze of an infected person. TB patients in Aruba are immediately quarantined to a special infectious diseases ward in the hospital.

The bacteria can remain dormant in the system for years, before actually manifesting symptoms, usually when the immune system is weakened. TB is more common among economically depressed economies where there is mal-nutrition and generally poor health. This is not the case of Aruba.

Doctors warn islanders to be aware of the flu-like symptoms, often mimicking pneumonia. Pneumonia is another bronchial infection, which usually subsides after two weeks of treatment with antibiotics. Influenza is a virus and does not respond to

antibiotic treatment; patients should consult their doctor before assuming they have pneumonia or TB.

If a patient finds symptoms of wet cough, fatigue, night sweats, and unexplained weight loss persist after two weeks of treatments with antibiotics, their family doctor should contact the Department of Health and Contagious Diseases to be tested for TB. Other symptoms can include wheezing, chest pain and difficulty breathing. Treatment for TB requires isolation while the disease is contagious, possibly up to a month or more, and around six months of specific antibiotic treatment. Response to treatment and procedure varies with the condition of the patient and severity of the case. It is imperative patients stick to their treatment regimen, as not completing it as prescribed contributes to the bacteria developing a resistance to antibiotics.

Those most susceptible to active TB are infants and elderly, or those with weakened immune systems due to diseases such as HIV/AIDS, diabetes, having undergone chemotherapy, or using certain medications. The hospital specialists wish islanders to realize that TB is present in Aruba, and has always been, but incidence is very rare, largely due to the climate and high standard of living conditions. They do feel the public should be aware of the symptoms of TB and what the treatment entails. The outlook is excellent if pulmonary TB is diagnosed early and treatment is begun quickly.

Rosalie Klein

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## Dutch police arrest three Syria-bound 'jihadists'

THE HAGUE (AFP) - Dutch police have arrested three alleged would-be jihadists who were about to leave The Netherlands to go and fight alongside rebels in Syria, the national Prosecutor's Office said yesterday.

"Detectives arrested three men on Thursday who apparently planned to travel to Syria to participate in a violent international jihad," it said in a statement.

The three, aged 22, 23 and 33, are "most probably radicalised Muslims", prosecutors said, after an investigation was opened in October following a tip-off by the Dutch secret service.

Police searched two homes and seized knives, a sword and a cross-bow, as well as packed backpacks, farewell letters and a large quantity of jihadist literature.

The men -- two of Turkish origin and the other of Iraqi origin -- allegedly collected funds to finance their journey, beginning with flights to Turkey and then heading for the Syrian border.

Two of the men had been due to fly out Thursday from Brussels to Turkey, the statement said. The three were to appear on charges of "preparing terrorist activities" before a Rotterdam judge Friday, the statement said.

One of the men was married last week "and planned to travel to Syria with her to fight in the jihad."

"The man posed in front of his bride in one picture while armed with an AK-47 assault rifle," prosecutors said.

He also told his wife on the Internet: "I hope we will die together and go to the paradise."

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## Colombia seeks talks with Nicaragua to solve maritime spat

LIMA - Colombian President Juan Manuel Santos said yesterday he hoped to have "civilized" talks with Nicaragua's leader to resolve a dispute over their sea border after a U.N. court slashed Bogota's maritime territory. Both countries have warships in the resource-rich waters but Santos urged diplomacy.

Santos said he plans to meet with Nicaraguan President Daniel Ortega today in Mexico, where they will attend the

swearing in of Mexican President-elect Enrique Pena Nieto.

Ortega has said he expects Colombia, a close ally of the United States, to recognize the court's decision.

Santos has refused to apply a ruling made last week by the Hague-based International Court of Justice that reduced a large expanse of Colombia's maritime territory, drawing the border in favor of Nicaragua while giving a cluster of disputed islands to Bogota.

In protest, Colombia withdrew from a treaty on Wednesday that bound it to the U.N. court's decision. But the action does not have retroactive impact for the waters, which have potential offshore oil and gas deposits as well as fishing potential.

If left unsolved, the dispute could exacerbate regional tensions. Left-leaning Nicaragua likely will find support with allies including Venezuela, Ecuador and Bolivia.

## Negotiators wrap up 1st round of Colombian peace talks

HAVANA -- The first round of talks here between the Colombian government and leftist FARC rebels has ended with progress on mechanisms for incorporating civil society into the process, which is aimed at bringing an end to a decades-long armed conflict.

Negotiators representing President Juan Manuel Santos' administration and the guerrillas will resume talks on Dec. 5 after the two sides agreed to organize a citizens' forum on agrarian policy and launch a

Web page for receiving proposals from the general public.

The Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia, or FARC, also has reached the end of this first round of talks with "great optimism and hope," the leader of its peace delegation said hours earlier.

The agreements reached over the past several days in Havana will allow Colombian citizens and civil society groups to present proposals on the problem of landholding and agricultural development.



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## INTERNATIONAL NEWS

### US condemns Israeli settlement expansion

WASHINGTON (AFP) - The White House yesterday condemned Israel's decision to build 3,000 settler homes in east Jerusalem and the West Bank as "counterproductive" and said it would make resuming peace talks harder.

Israel revealed the plans in response to a historic vote in the UN General Assembly Thursday to recognize Palestine within the 1967 borders as a non-member observer state.

"We reiterate our longstanding opposition to settlements and east Jerusalem construction and announcements. We believe these actions are counterproductive and make it harder to resume direct negotiations or achieve a two-state solution," said National Security Council spokesman Tommy Vietor.

"Direct negotiations remain our goal and we encourage all parties to take steps to make that easier to achieve," Vietor said.

At the State Department,

spokeswoman Victoria Nuland said that despite past failures, Washington would keep trying to get Israelis and Palestinians to the negotiating table.

The Obama administration had also tried to stop the Palestinian push for recognition at the UN, saying it would put another obstacle in the path to peace and that statehood could only come through negotiations with Israel.

Media reports said some of the Israeli construction would be in a highly contentious area of the West Bank known as E1, a corridor that runs between the easternmost edge of annexed east Jerusalem and the Maaleh Adumim settlement.

The PLO condemned the move as an act of "Israeli aggression against a state."

Palestinians bitterly oppose the E1 project, as it effectively cuts the occupied West Bank in two, north to south, and makes the creation of a viable Palestinian state highly problematic.

### US vote on foreign grads illustrates immigration deadlock

WASHINGTON (AFP) - The House of Representatives voted yesterday to grant more permanent residency permits to foreign graduates -- a likely doomed bill that illustrates the deep divisions between the two main US parties on the hot issue of immigration.

The tally was 245 in favor to 139 against. The bill was sponsored by Republicans, who were snubbed mightily by Hispanics in the November general election.

Democrats voted against it, in part because they want broad reform of the immigration system, not just to tackle a small aspect of it in a country with an estimated 11 million foreigners lacking residency permits.

The bill will probably go nowhere because there is only a month left in the legislature and Democrats control the

Senate.

A new Congress born of the November presidential and legislative elections will take office in January.

Specifically, the STEM Jobs Act voted yesterday would raise from 120,000 to 170,000 the number of residency permits granted to foreigners who have completed graduate degrees at American universities.

The new visas would be for those in science, technology and engineering fields, the first three parts of the STEM acronym. But to make room for them, a program that gave preferential treatment to people from developing countries was axed.

The bill's sponsor, Republican Lamar Smith, said America needs to hold on to graduates with high-tech skills.

"In a global economy, we

cannot afford to educate these foreign graduates in the U.S. and then send them back home to work for our competitors," Smith said.

But Luis Gutierrez, a Democrat who acts as a sort of party spokesman on immigration, said that while there is consensus that STEM visas are important, "if you support this bill, you are saying that one group of immigrants is better than another and one type of educated, degree-holding person and their work is more important than another's."

Democrats also criticized as unfair a clause in the bill that would make it easier for technology-oriented graduate students who end up with green cards to bring their families into the United States from overseas than for others in less high-tech fields.

### Russia ramps up NATO shield demands

Moscow's permanent representative to NATO has informed his colleagues in the military alliance that Russia needs clear technical documentation that the US missile defense will not pose a security risk for his country.

Russia says it wants solid guarantees "expressed in a legally-binding manner" that the US missile defense shield will never target Russian territory, Aleksandr Grushko said yesterday.

He stressed, however, that the document should not be draped in the "language of political declarations," but in clear military-technical fashion. Moscow needs an assurance that the system is specifically designed to counter potential missile threats outside the Euro-Atlantic area without undermining the strategic balance, that is, intercept Russian strategic



Air Defence Missile Squadron 2 with a Patriot missile launcher during an exercise at training site, northern Germany (AFP Photo)

nuclear weapons, he added.

The Russian envoy to NATO admitted that the debate over the US missile defense shield is "practically deadlocked," and the negotiation process within the framework of the NATO-Russia Council

(NRC) has come to a standstill.

Nevertheless, Grushko said there still remains a "window of opportunity" and a crisis may be avoided if the necessary amount of "political will is demonstrated



HONDURAS, Tegucigalpa : A cameraman stands in front of a banner with the portraits of people disappeared during the 80's reading "We demand justice", in Tegucigalpa on November 30, 2012, on the day of the commemoration of the 30th anniversary of the Committee of Relatives of People Detained-Disappeared in Honduras (COFADEH). According to COFADEH, 184 people were kidnapped, tortured and murdered in the 80's in the framework of the Cold War in Honduras. (AFP PHOTO)



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## Homemade explosives hit two Mexico ATM machines

MEXICO CITY (AFP) - Homemade bombs struck two bank cash dispensers in Mexico City and a neighboring state, causing material damage on the eve of the country's presidential inauguration, authorities said yesterday.

An explosive made with a gas spray can was detonated in an automated teller machine in the capital's southern district of Coyoacan early yesterday, damaging the front of a building, windows and the ATM, a police official said.

Political pamphlets signed by a far-left group were found at the scene, the official said, refusing to identify the group.

A similar explosive hit an ATM on Thursday in the city of Toluca, the capital of the neighboring state of Mexico, some 67 kilometers (40 miles) east of Mexico City, the prose-

cutor's office said.

The explosions came as Enrique Pena Nieto, a former Mexico state governor, prepares to be sworn in as president today, taking over from conservative President Felipe Calderon amid heavy security around the congress.

Similar explosions have taken place sporadically in recent years in various cities, never causing any victims. The blasts have been attributed to extremists and radical animal-rights or anti-technology activists.

Pena Nieto's presidency will mark the return of the Institutional Revolutionary Party (PRI), which governed Mexico for 71 years until it lost the 2000 election. The PRI has vowed to break with its authoritarian past.

## US wife presses Obama on husband jailed in Cuba

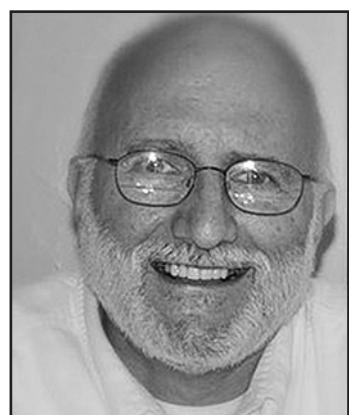
WASHINGTON (AFP) - The wife of jailed US contractor Alan Gross yesterday urged President Barack Obama to send a top-level envoy to Cuba to negotiate his release, three years after his arrest.

"I urge President Obama to make my husband's case a top priority," Judy Gross said at a news conference held to mark the third anniversary of her husband's arrest on the Communist-run Caribbean island state.

"I urge him to privately have an honest and open discussion with the Cubans and to do whatever is necessary to secure Alan's release."

Gross, 63, was arrested on December 3, 2009 for illegally distributing laptops and communications gear to members of Cuba's small Jewish community. At the time, he was working for a firm contracted to the US State Department.

In March 2011 he was sentenced to 15-year prison for "acts against the independence or territorial integrity" of Cuba.



Alan Gross

"President Obama needs to send a high-level envoy to Cuba, who has the authority to discuss the range of issues in the bilateral relationship and to take whatever decisions are necessary to bring Alan home," Gross family lawyer Jared Genser said.

Gross said that on her last visit to Havana her husband appeared weak and had lost more than 100 pounds, but Cuba said Wednesday that he is in "normal" health, and medical tests show he does not have cancer as his family feared.

## Strauss-Kahn could ink deal with maid in 'days'

NEW YORK (AFP) - Disgraced former IMF chief Dominique Strauss-Kahn hopes to sign an out-of-court settlement within "a few days" ending a lawsuit by a maid who accused him of sexual assault, his lawyer said yesterday.

Attorney William Taylor said that although there is no firm settlement yet with the Manhattan hotel maid, Nafissatou Diallo, negotiations are ongoing.

## Missouri mechanic, wife win \$293 mln lottery

CHICAGO (AFP) - A Missouri mechanic and his unemployed wife came forward yesterday as holders of one of two winning tickets in the second largest lottery in US history: a \$587.5 million Powerball jackpot.

Mark and Cindy Hill vowed to stay grounded and not let the massive windfall go to their heads after receiving a check for \$293,750,000 at a press conference in their local high school in Dearborn, Missouri.

"We're just normal human beings. We're as common as anybody. We just have a little bit more money," Cindy Hill told reporters.

The Hills, who appeared with their three sons and adopted daughter, said they were still trying to digest what has happened to them and haven't thought too much about what they're going to do with all that money.

"I think we're going to have a pretty good Christmas," said Cindy Hill, 51.

"We're going to go on a holiday and take all our kids and grandkids. And I think we're going to set up accounts for all the kids, grandkids and nieces and nephews for college."

The family also plans to do-

**tandoor**  
*the Indian Grill house*

**Lunch Buffet**  
 Saturday - Sunday  
 12:00 - 3 p.m.

**Dinner**  
 Monday - Sunday  
 6:00 - 11:00 p.m.

**Palm Beach Center - Palm Beach Aruba - Tel: 5860944**



nate a substantial portion of their winnings to charity, Hill said, adding "how much does a person need?"

The owner of the other winning ticket, which was purchased in Arizona, has not yet been announced but a security camera may have caught his dance of joy.

Freddy Lopez, a cashier at Marlboro Village Exxon in the Washington, D.C. area, said the beefy, bald man -- seen in a store surveillance video in a bright yellow construction outfit -- was a regular customer "in the military" who lived nearby.

"He didn't know (he was a winner) until he checked his tickets and he found out he was a millionaire in here," Lopez told AFP yesterday.

"He couldn't believe it. He said, 'goddamn it, I got it, I got it,' and then he started jumping up and down," the cashier said, adding that the man was so excited he forgot what he came for to fill his tank with gas.

The man told other customers he bought his tickets in Arizona, where state lottery officials said he has 180 days to claim his winnings, Washington television station WJLA reported.

## Chemicals freight train falls off broken US bridge

PAULSBORO, New Jersey - A rail bridge collapsed on Friday over a creek in southern New Jersey, causing a Conrail freight train to derail and spill hazardous chemicals into the air and water, authorities said.

One of four tanks of the freight train carrying vinyl chloride fell into Mantua Creek, and its contents leaked into the waterway, which feeds into the Delaware River near Philadelphia, according to the New Jersey Department of En-

vironmental Protection.

Some 22 people were taken to a nearby hospital for precautionary examinations and were doing fine, said Larry Ragonese, a DEP spokesman who said the health danger and environmental impact was minimal.

Exposure to vinyl chloride, a highly toxic and flammable industrial chemical, can cause burning eyes or respiratory discomfort, he said.

Authorities evacuated a

half-mile (805-metre) area around the spill, which took place at about 7 a.m. EST in Paulsboro, New Jersey, just across the Delaware River from Philadelphia, the U.S. Coast Guard said.

Local schools were closed and students were sent home, authorities said.

The leak was contained and no longer posed a threat, and authorities were using booms to trap the chemical in the water, Ragonese said.



## Health & Living

# Road map to AIDS-free generation

WASHINGTON (AFP) - Secretary of State Hillary Clinton unveiled Thursday an ambitious US blueprint on how to realize the dream of an AIDS-free generation, aiming to see virtually no babies born with HIV by 2015.

"Scientific advances and their successful implementation have brought the world to a tipping point in the fight against AIDS," the 54-page document says.

Speaking at a launch to mark World AIDS Day on December the 1st, Clinton stressed that challenges still exist as the global community seeks to "change the course of this pandemic and usher in an AIDS-free generation."

But although HIV may still be around into the future, "the

treat more people than become infected every year. That will be the tipping point," Clinton said.

"We will then get ahead of the pandemic and an AIDS-free generation will be in our sight."

In a message for World AIDS Day, President Barack Obama said the global community should come together "to remember those we have lost, and to renew our commitment to end the pandemic once and for all."

He praised the "great strides" made in combating the disease and stressed that in the United States testing and prevention remained priorities,



some AIDS/HIV children of Southern Africa

disease that it causes need not be," Clinton said.

Antiretroviral drugs have been hugely successful in cutting the rate of HIV transmission from pregnant women to their unborn babies or via breast-feeding, as well as in helping HIV-positive patients from developing AIDS.

Some 1.7 million people still die every year from AIDS-related illnesses.

But in the vision of an AIDS-free generation, almost no child is born with HIV; as they grow up, they are at lower risk of becoming infected; and if they do get HIV, they have access to treatment to halt its progression towards AIDS.

New HIV infections among children and adults around the world have fallen by 19 percent over the past decade, and AIDS-related deaths by 26 percent since a peak in 2005.

"As we continue to drive down the number of new infections, and drive up the number of people on treatment, eventually we will be able to

particularly among the worst hit communities -- gay men, Latinos and African Americans.

US Global AIDS coordinator Eric Goosby told AFP that some 390,000 children are born at the moment every year with HIV, primarily in about 22 countries, mostly in sub-Saharan Africa.

Taking a cocktail of three antiretroviral drugs cut the risk of a mother transmitting HIV to her baby to less than two percent, he said. It also allowed her to breast-feed and protected her in future pregnancies in countries where many women had between five to seven children.

"Now we will not get to zero," Goosby warned, saying many women in developing countries never enter prenatal care. But he hoped by 2015 that the numbers of babies born with HIV would drop globally below 40,000.

In a moving speech at the launch of the blueprint, South African Florence Ngobeni-

Allen, an ambassador for the Elizabeth Glaser Pediatric AIDS Foundation who is HIV-positive, spoke of losing her own daughter and husband to AIDS.

"Losing a child to AIDS is the worst thing that a mother can go through. I've told this story so many times, but it still feels like yesterday," she said.

Her pain turned to joy, once she had remarried and gave birth to two HIV-negative sons, the oldest of whom is now six.

"Let's not give up, for the fight is far from over... I dream of a generation born free of HIV. I know it's real because my children are part of it. I'm proof of it, and I am proud of that," she said.

*Under the road map drawn up by the President's Emergency Plan For AIDS Relief (PEPFAR), the United States will:*

-- work towards the elimination of new HIV infections in children by 2015 and keeping their mothers alive;

-- increase its coverage of HIV treatment to cut the number of deaths from AIDS and boost HIV prevention, including antiretroviral drugs. Obama has set a goal of treating some six million people with such drugs by the end of 2013;

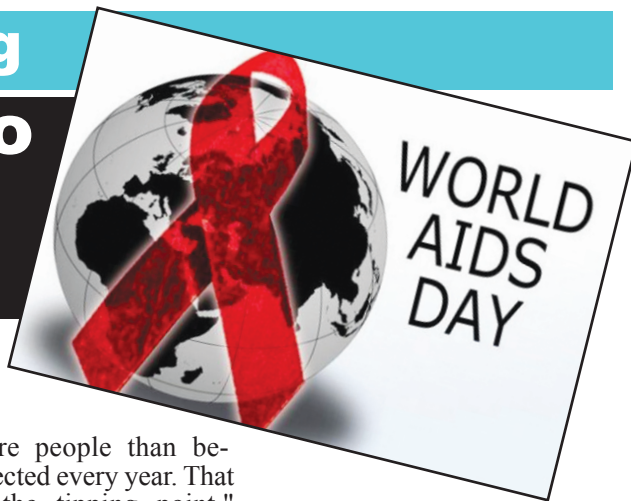
-- increase the numbers of men that get circumcisions. By the end of fiscal year 2013, PEPFAR aims to have supported such operations for some 4.7 million men in eastern and southern Africa;

-- step up access to testing and counseling, as well as to condoms and other prevention methods.

The blueprint stressed though that underpinning all these efforts would be scientific advances, adding the US will support innovative research.

"In every setting, in every country, really in every city... we are on a continuum towards an AIDS-free generation," Goosby said.

"There's an aggregate and a kind of cumulative reflection of that for a country, and a world. But it is an individual march for each person and for each population."



## Taj Mahal

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Authentic Indian Restaurant on the Island

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Lunch : 12:00 - 3:00pm  
Dinner : 6:00 - 10:00 pm

Havenstraat 36,  
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Oranjestad, Tel : 5884494

## S.African school boy in court for killing 'bully'

JOHANNESBURG (AFP) - A South African teenager charged with shooting dead a Johannesburg schoolmate he accused of bullying was arraigned yesterday and freed on bail pending his trial.

Tsundzukani Mthombi, the 18-year-old son of a police officer, allegedly stole his mother's service pistol earlier this month before he went to school. He opened fire on fellow pupil Nkululeko Ndlovu, 18, in a secondary school classroom.

Mthombi claimed to have been taunted by Ndlovu and his friends while waiting at a bus stop, the day before he

stole his mother's firearm from a home safe.

He claimed to have been attacked by the same group of pupils in his classroom the next day, just before he shot Ndlovu.

Detective Isaac Mashishi said the fact that Mthombi took his mother's weapon implied that he had the murder planned.

Earlier this month, another teenager fatally stabbed a fellow pupil at a school in the southern coastal city of Durban.

In October, two teenagers fatally stabbed another pupil during breaktime at a Western Cape province school.

## Sesame seeds

--Traditional societies have touted the positive benefits of this seed for thousands of years.

Sesame seeds are very high in calcium, magnesium, zinc, fiber, iron, B1 and phosphorus, sesame seeds are unique in their chemical structure. Possessing important cholesterol-fighting fibers known as lignans, studies show that these seeds can lower blood pressure, as well as protect the liver from damage.

Sesame seeds also may help prevent Arthritis, asthma, migraine headaches, menopause, osteoporosis and PMS. Grinding them allows you to mix them into dishes without getting the texture, but still getting the flavor and nutritional value.



natural sesame seeds



brown sesame seeds

**For Emergency Call 911  
and/or  
Hospitaal**



**527 4000**



# Sinterklaas Kids Party

For kids between 0 and 10 years old

2 till 4 December  
Bring ya shoe

Grand Cafe

5th December  
Get ya shoe with present  
@ 14.00 pm  
Sinterklaas Party

On the Photo with  
Zwarte Piet

*Rembrandt*

\* Daily open @ 12pm \* Palmbeach 55 Southbeach Centre \* Phone 5864747 \*

## Sci-Tech

### Stop Viruses from Crashing Your Computer



Last month, the social-media team at Russia's Kaspersky Lab decided to run a contest leading up to Halloween.

It asked Kaspersky's Facebook friends to share their scariest stories about computer crashes caused by malware. The prize was a year's free subscription to a Kaspersky Lab security product.

Kaspersky Lab shared the winning stories, as well as tips and lessons learned, to educate the public on ways to prevent these scenarios from happening again.

Here's one :  
*Jean's Story*

Trying to keep up with two pre-teen children during the 1990s, Jean quickly needed to learn the basics of the computer in order to know what her kids were getting

into online.

As part of her getting up to speed, her boys thoughtfully bought her a "Civilization"-type game.

As she was building her Egyptian empire, her screen suddenly went blue. Not knowing anything about the infamous Windows "blue screen of death," Jean popped the game out of the CD drive and rebooted the computer, thinking the game had some kind of glitch.

Not so much. Unfortunately, Jean was then informed

that she had contracted the Bugbear email worm and in less than a minute her computer was going to shut down.

Tips & Lessons Learned

The Bugbear worm (also known as Tanatos) is still active today in different variations. It infects computers through malicious email attachments, which is how Jean got infected, according to Kaspersky.

You can protect yourself from the Bugbear worm by never opening any suspicious emails, either as previews or by opening the whole message, according to Kaspersky researchers.

Instead, install and run a strong Internet security suite that includes anti-virus software and anti-spam and exploit-prevention capabilities.

The number of rogue anti-virus programs is huge. Kaspersky Lab detects hundreds of thousands of them every month.

Here are some tips to help you protect you against malicious pop-ups:

— Don't click on pop-up windows, even if they haven't been blocked by the browser security or other security solutions. Only your legitimate, installed anti-virus software should be giving you security warning messages. As for infection warning messages that appear randomly while you're browsing the Internet, ignore them.

— Legitimate programs designed to combat malware will never first scan a computer and then demand money for activation. You should never pay for a product that does this, according to Kaspersky researchers. Rather, install a genuine anti-virus solution developed by a well-known anti-virus company and use it to scan and clean your computer.

### IAEA head 'confident' no sensitive information hacked

VIENNA (AFP) - The head of the UN atomic agency said yesterday that he was still in the dark over a hacking incident but that he was "confident" no sensitive information related to its inspections work was stolen.

"Safeguards" relates to the Vienna-based body's activities in ensuring that nuclear weapons technology and knowhow is not spread.

Amano revealed that the hacking took place several months ago, calling it "deeply regrettable".

Previously the agency had not confirmed when the incident happened, saying only that the server was old and had since been shut down and that the hackers had posted "some

contact details" on the Internet.

A group calling itself Parastoo, which means "swallow" in Farsi, this week posted email addresses of a list of experts working with the IAEA, with comments critical of Israel's nuclear activities.

The group said in an online statement it had "grabbed a total backup" and that it was "reassuring (the) IAEA that their critical information is safe with us".

Israel, widely assumed to have nuclear weapons but which has never confirmed or denied it, is not a signatory to the nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT) and -- unlike Iran -- is not obliged to grant access to IAEA inspectors.

### Blatter prefers evolution to revolution

SAO PAULO (AFP) - FIFA president Sepp Blatter hailed technical advances in the game Friday as the organisation prepares to try out goalline technology at the upcoming World Cup in Japan.

"There is no revolution in football -- there is evolution. There will always be errors from referees because they are human beings," said Blatter.

World governing body FIFA has been trying out two technologies and will put them to the tournament test at the Club World Cup starting December 6 in Japan with the better version being maintained for the 2014 World Cup

in Brazil.

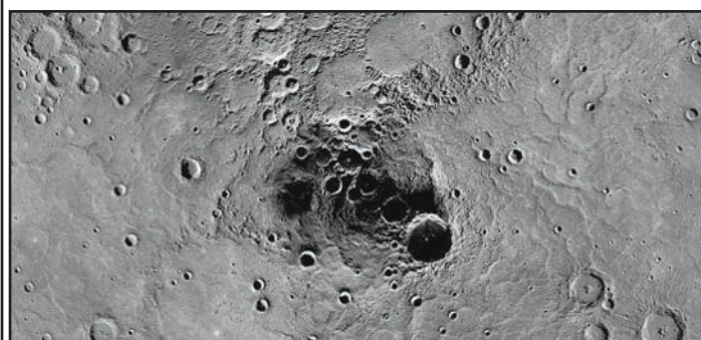
Two systems -- one German, one English -- have been certified by FIFA and are now fighting one another for the right to be used in Brazil in two years' time.

Blatter says a certain dose of hi-tech is acceptable -- but no more.

"I want to insist this is the only technology we have on the field ... because we have to maintain the specificity of our game and the fascination of football," he said.

"Let's help referees when it comes to this very difficult situation to judge if the ball is in or out."

### Large ice deposits found on Mercury: scientists



WASHINGTON (AFP) - Scientists announced new evidence that Mercury, the planet orbiting nearest the Sun, hosts massive caches of ice and revealed new information on how water reached our solar system's inner planets. Though much of Mercury is boiling hot, its axis of rotation is nearly parallel to the Sun -- which means the poles of the planet are never hit by the Sun's heating rays. Scientists have long hypothesized these shadowy poles could harbor frozen water and other interesting materials. For the first time, new data from the MESSENGER spacecraft, which landed on Mercury in 2011, allows for a detailed model of just what's going on at Mercury's mysterious poles. In the coldest spots, the water was on the surface, but in slightly warmer regions, where the ice might have melted, it was covered by a dark material with a lower concentration of hydrogen.



## COMICS

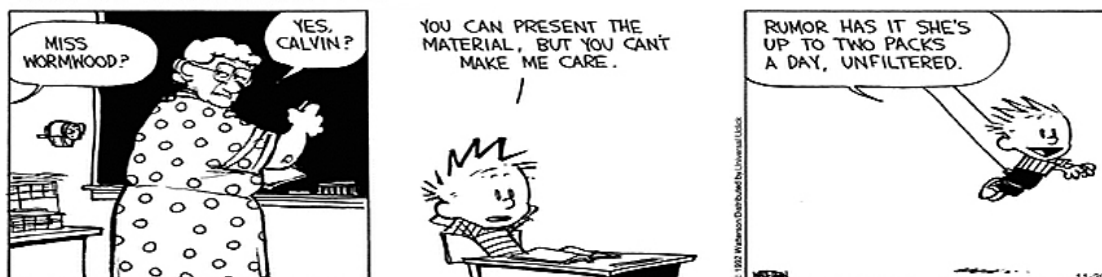
## PICKLES



## MOMMA



## CALVIN and HOBBS



## CROSSWORD



## CROSSWORD

FREE Coverage on our website:

www.themorningnewsaruba.com

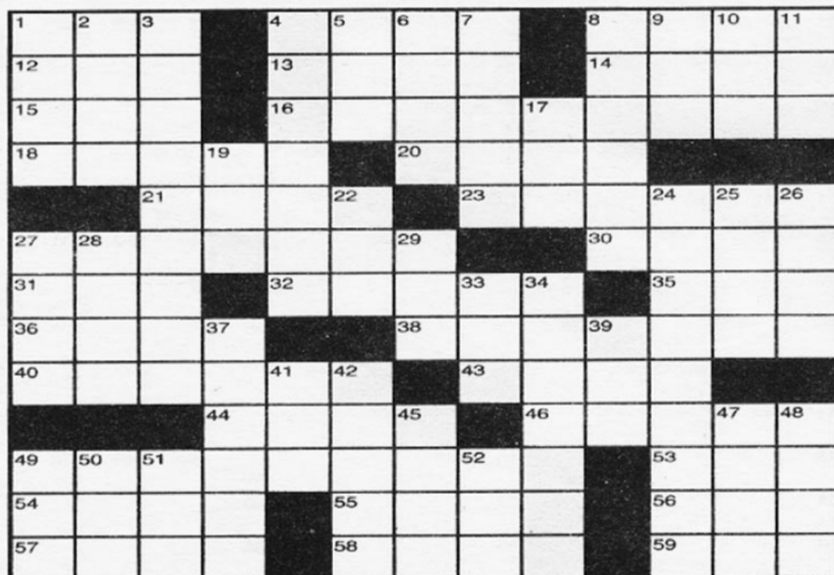
## HOW DOES THAT GRAB YOU?

## ACROSS

1. Little League need
4. Fish tank scum
8. Lincoln who played Tarzan
12. Smoker's remains
13. Pair below jacks
14. Driven obliquely
15. Title for Michael Caine
16. Census unit
18. Eydie's hubby
20. Hayes of "Will & Grace"
21. Sewing line
23. Bizarre, '60s style
27. Stuck together
30. Earth portion
31. Part of a GI's address
32. Defeat soundly
35. \_\_\_ Maria (coffee liqueur)
36. Declare, in cards
38. Parade participant
40. Sets up a trust fund
43. Cuban coin
44. Bailiff's cry
46. Yarn-spinners on the pier
49. Stubborn types
53. NYSE bellwether, for short
54. Huge Russian lake
55. Iroquoian

## DOWN

56. Yale student
57. Dole (out)
58. Steals from
59. Sleep stage: abbr.
1. Stereo knob
2. "As Good \_\_\_ Gets" (Hunt film)
3. Welcome mat's spot
4. "Young \_\_\_" (1954 Sinatra-Day film)
5. Actor Gorcey
6. Oxlike antelopes
7. It sometimes lacks liquidity
8. Of cultural minorities
9. Bathroom, in
10. Harris of "thirty-something"
11. Like a mateless glove
17. Aptitude for music
19. Victorious symbol
22. Sea, to Pierre
24. Toddler's woven creation
25. \_\_\_-dieu (prayer desk)
26. Millennium division
27. Arrived
28. Start the bidding, in poker
29. Joe DiMaggio's brother
33. Plan out
34. "Stop the \_\_\_!" (newspaper cliché)
37. Sketch in a notebook margin
39. Jefferson Davis's gp.
41. Western state: abbr.
42. Separate
45. Actor Mostel
47. Milk can art
48. Sink or \_\_\_
49. Over-active actor
50. Raw material
51. Navigator's abbr.
52. Umbrella stave



## BOTICA

## DRUG STORES OPEN AFTER HOURS

DEC 01 - DEC 07

O'stad : ' Botica Serv. Eagle ' - S.N. ' Serv. Seroe Preto '

## Center for Hemodialysis

Posada Clinic Aruba  
Tel. 580-2840/Pager 127-2446

## INFORMATION

Telephone 118

## Twelve Step Meetings

24 hours helpline 583-8989

## Fellowship Clinic S.N.

Free treatment of  
Alcoholism  
and Drug Addiction  
Anonymity guaranteed  
Tel. 584-5440

## SOS TELEAYUDO SOS

Telephone Helpline  
583-1190  
Mon.-Thu. 9 p.m.-12 midn.  
Fri.-Sun. 9 p.m.-2 a.m.

## CAS MARIE

Alzheimer's Day  
Care Center  
Tel: 5696910Important  
Telephone  
Numbers

## HOSPITAL

Horacio Oduber Hospital  
Tel. 587-4300

## EMERGENCY

Telephone 911  
POLICE HDQS  
Telephone 100

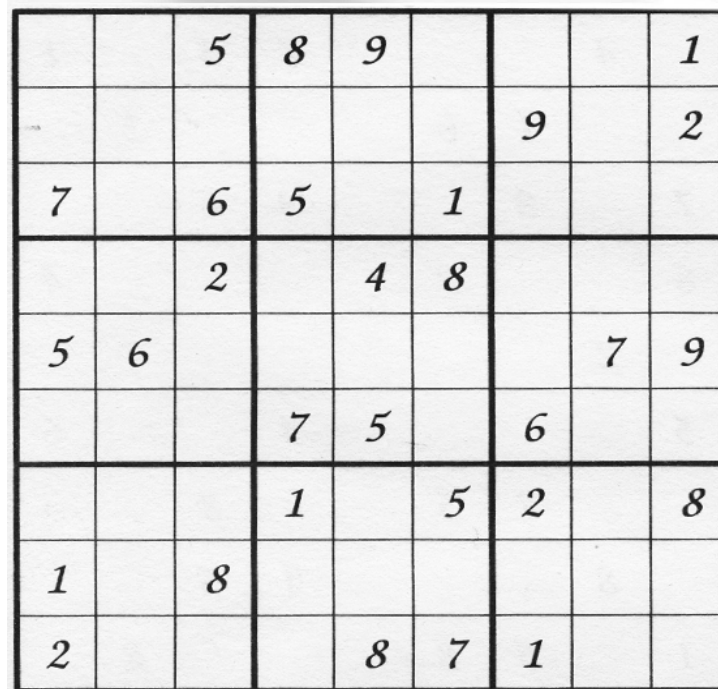
## TAXI

C.V. TAS  
587-1998, 587-5900  
In Oranjestad:  
Tel. 582-2116, 582-1604  
582-5447  
In San Nicolas  
Tel. 584-5160, 584-6602  
professional taxi services  
Tel. 588-0035

## Al Anon Meetings

Mondays 6-7pm  
Sabana Liber 8 in Noord  
Tel: 5673356 / 5838989

## Sudoku



## SOLUTION

9	5	1	8	7	6	5	2	4
4	7	5	2	9	6	8	1	3
8	6	2	5	1	4	7	9	3
7	2	9	6	5	1	8	4	3
6	4	8	1	2	7	9	5	3
5	1	8	7	9	2	4	6	3
1	8	7	1	2	5	9	6	4
2	5	6	9	4	1	8	7	3
1	9	4	7	6	8	5	2	3

Complete the grid so that every row and every column contains the numbers 1 through 9

A number is Never repeated in a row or column.

In addition every rectangle must contain the numbers 1 through 9





Current as 11/30/12	Currency Code	Buying rate banknotes	Buying Cheques	Selling Rate
U.S.A.	USD	1.77	1.78	1.80
Dutch Antilles	ANG	98.00	100.00	100.20
Canada	CAD	1.77	1.79	1.81
Britain	GBP	2.79	2.84	2.90
Switzerland	CHF	191.72	192.44	193.24
Netherlands	EUR	229.20	231.29	233.61
Sweden	SEK	25.71	26.43	27.23
Denmark	DKK	30.04	30.76	31.56
Norway	NOK	30.39	31.11	31.91
Japan	JPY	213.46	215.41	217.58

(per 10,000)

All rates for amounts up to AWG 100.00 per item.

## Finance

### Report: Several HSBC staff leave amid laundering probe

GENEVA (AFP) - Several employees at the HSBC bank in Geneva have left "by mutual agreement" after the unravelling of a 100 million euro (\$130 million) drug and money laundering ring in France and Switzerland, Swiss daily Tribune de Geneve reported yesterday.

While it remained unclear how many workers had left, one of the employees to go was the eldest brother of no fewer than three suspects accused of involvement in the ring, including the main suspect for Switzerland operations Meyer Elmaley, the daily said.

"He is not suspected of any involvement (in the money laundering probe)", said the man's lawyer, Marc Bonnant, adding that it was his client's idea to leave HSBC's Supervisory Executive Committee to protect against any question of wrongdoing.

"He wasn't even questioned by police," the lawyer said, adding that his client,

whose name was not given, had gone to live in Israel but was still working with HSBC before French and Swiss police cracked down on the ring on October 10.

HSBC, which declined to comment on the development to AFP, has also come to a similar arrangement with other employees in a bid to protect its reputation, the lawyer added.

Two of the former HSBC executive's brothers -- one of them a former HSBC colleague -- are being held in Swiss custody over their involvement in a drug and money laundering racket Paris says legitimised at least 100 million euros.

A third brother is being held in France in connection with the same case.

According to reports, the two brothers held in Switzerland are suspected of laundering cash through a Geneva-based finance company, with the possible unwitting participation of French tax evaders.



Photo above shows the financial district of Shanghai. Standard & Poor's on November 29 affirmed China's sovereign credit rating, another sign that the world's second largest economy is rebounding as Beijing prepares to usher in new leaders.

## Boehner sees no progress in "fiscal cliff" talks

House Speaker John Boehner lashed out yesterday at President Barack Obama, saying negotiations to avoid the "fiscal cliff" are "almost nowhere."

Boehner spoke after Republicans disclosed that the White House was \$1.6 trillion in tax increases up front, as well as \$50 billion in additional stimulus spending.

Boehner said the plan would be a "crippling blow" to an economy that is still struggling to find its footing.

### Brazil grew a paltry 0.6 percent in third quarter

BRASILIA (AFP) - The Brazilian economy grew a paltry 0.6 percent in the third quarter of 2012 compared with the previous three months, signaling a weaker than anticipated recovery, the Brazilian statistics office said yesterday.

The Institute of Geography and Statistics (IBGE) said the economy rose 0.9 percent in the July-to-September quarter compared with the same period of last year, and a mere 0.7 percent so far this year.

"This third-quarter result signals an improvement. We are on a trajectory of economic recovery, growth," Finance Minister Guido Mantega told a press conference in Sao Paulo.

"It was not as strong as we and analysts had expected, but the economy is in an acceleration phase," he added. "We are on the right course and with this we should achieve four percent growth in 2013."

Market analysts and the government had expected GDP growth of one percent in the third quarter, but the modest third-quarter rise in the world's sixth largest economy was the strongest this year.

### YESTERDAY'S Crossword Answer

J	A	R	T	A	B	S	P	U	R
A	L	E	A	R	N	O	P	O	N
B	E	D	R	I	O	G	R	A	N
S	C	R	I	M	M	A	G	E	S
I	D	O	S	L	A	M			
L	O	V	E	R	B	E	R	A	T
O	N	E	A	M	A	D	T	R	A
N	O	R	T	H	E	R	B	R	U
E	O	N	A	L	O	E			
S	R	O	P	A	S	S	E	N	G
H	U	R	R	I	C	A	N	E	R
A	D	A	Y	E	K	E	D	I	R
D	E	L	E	S	I	R			
							T	N	T

"There's a stalemate. Let's not kid ourselves," the Ohio Republican said. "Right now, we're almost nowhere."

Even so, he added, he was determined to continue working with Obama.

Markets dipped briefly into negative territory on Boehner's comments before finishing higher, continuing a pattern of gyrations tied to the latest utterances about the outlook for an agreement to avert the fiscal cliff.

The tone in Washington



was in sharp contrast to the one expressed on November 16, the last time Obama met with congressional leaders. Boehner then stood next to Democratic leaders and voiced optimism they could find common ground in fiscal cliff negotiations.

### UAE central bank says to buy Portuguese debt

LISBON (AFP) - The governor of the United Arab Emirates central bank said yesterday it intends to buy the sovereign debt of bailed-out eurozone member Portugal.

"Portugal has taken steps towards recovery. Ireland has successfully overcome the crisis and now the second country to do it in Europe will be Portugal," Sultan bin Nasser al-Suwaidi was quoted as saying in the Portuguese business daily Diario Economico.

"We therefore have the intention to buy Portuguese sovereign debt."

Portugal in May 2011 became the third eurozone nation to be tripped up by the debt crisis and seek a sovereign bailout. It received a 78-bil-

lion-euro rescue from the EU and IMF after pledging to cut its deficit and implement structural reforms to increase competitiveness.

"I am confident that Europe will overcome the financial crisis," said Suwaidi, who talked with the newspaper on the sidelines of a conference in the United Arab Emirates.

He added that "like Portugal, Italy is also on the right track."

In a sign of rising investor confidence in Portugal, the yield on its two-year bonds recently dipped below 4.0 percent on the secondary market.

A number of Portuguese companies have also tapped the bond market in recent months.

### German lawmakers approve Greek bailout despite qualms



German lawmakers approved the latest bailout for Greece yesterday by a large majority despite growing unease about the cost to taxpayers less than a year before federal elections. The package, which aims to cut Greece's debt load to 124 percent of national output by 2020, coincides with increased talk among German lawmakers and media that euro zone governments will eventually have to write off much of their Greek debt.



## New foundation encourages each Aruban to be ONE MORE person who cares and acts



Glenny Grigg, Agustin and Carolina Gonzalez

The ONE MORE Foundation was introduced to island media by one of their major sponsors, Renaissance Aruba, on Thursday afternoon, November 29. The founders, Agustin Gonzalez and his wife Carolina, and Glenny Grigg, explained their purpose is to motivate Arubans to apply their energies to making a better community, helping where it is needed, and just being "positive, the One Happy Island we have always been."

In their short existence, ONE MORE foundation noticed and addressed some issues. Casa Cuna Progreso, a home for children ages infant to seven years, has large piles of refuse accumulating in the land behind their center. The ONE MORE board gathered together 20 volunteers who came to clean it out one Saturday, and then returned a week later with 80 volunteers who fixed and painted the premises. They also brought with them clothes, toys and other needed items for the children.

"We have all lived on Aruba for around eight years," explains ONE MORE President Agustin Gonzalez, "Aruba has been very good to us, and many others, we wish to give back to the community, and hope they will join us." Working with him on several projects is his wife, Carolina and Glenny Grigg. Other ways they have lent a hand is in repairing the home of a woman in Madiki who had lost everything to a fire; while securing donations of house wares, furniture, clothing and other needed items.

ONE MORE has now turned its attention to Aruba's homeless population. This Sunday, December 2, they

have organized a "One More Meal" event in the Hotel Central parking lot in Oranjestad. The day begins at 11:00 AM and will end at 3:00 PM. Through the generous sponsorship of the Gianni's chain of local Italian restaurants and Renaissance kitchens, they will provide 100 meals for Aruba's homeless. They are also arranging for them to shower in the hotel, and are providing towels, soap, new sandals and a clean shirt for each participant.

They will then be welcome to sit and enjoy a meal, while getting connected with various organizations at the "Heart Station," where representatives of rehabilitation programs and centers will talk to the homeless who need care. There will also be a medical station checking their vital signs. They have also arranged some traditional holiday entertainment, to promote a festive and appealing ambiance.

A number of former addicts will be present to demonstrate to those needing rehab how they have turned their lives around. They will be living "before and after" proof, to show it can be done.

The ONE MORE board is putting out a call to the community for volunteers for this Sunday's event. They are very much in need of staff for the various stations. They expressed the hope the community would take the time to learn understand and sympathize with Aruba's homeless, and help them regain productive lives.

ONE MORE Foundation can be contacted at telephone number 733-9739 or 733+9738 or via e-mail: [atli\\_aruba@yahoo.com](mailto:atli_aruba@yahoo.com).

## Aruba Waterpark- A great idea for a holiday celebration

Those who have not visited the Aruba Waterpark, sitting in the shadow of the Hooiberg, are in for a pleasant surprise. The affordable and fun place has eight great slides from kiddy to killer, surrounded by breathtaking vistas.

Not only does it offer frolicking in the fresh water, but has an extremely clean, attractive restaurant and a fine chef. Island companies or families looking for something special for an end-of-the-year celebration, will find their employees very pleased with a day at the park. The



unlimited food and beverages, including alcoholic drinks from the bar. A \$13 ticket for children includes lunch, two

out so the climb to the top is not a daunting flight of steep stairs, but a gradual and charming nature walk that doesn't wear you out. The park is situated on a natural outcropping over amazing views of Aruba for miles around.

Aruba Waterpark is open from 11:00 AM until 7:00 PM Tuesday through Sunday. They host a 2-for-1 Happy Hour on Fridays from 5:00 to 7:00 PM. There is no fee for entering the park to enjoy the sunset from their cheerful dining/bar plaza, with already inexpensive drinks discounted even more.

Never crowded during the week it is easy to find, just head for the Hooiberg. Visit their website: <http://www.arubavacationpark.com/aruba-waterpark> from more information and directions.



chef has devised a special holiday menu for just such events.

The special holiday menu includes all the classics, turkey, ham, and the local favorite, ayaca, which can be arranged with their party planner, Jeanny at 5850060 or 5945025.



Aruba Waterpark is very reasonably priced at anytime of the year: \$11 for adults and \$8 for children. Those under two years of age or over 65 are free. All-inclusive packages for adults are available for only \$39 for

The park is cleverly planned to be more than just a waterpark; there is a playground for the little ones and all ages will enjoy the ambiance. The family area has long, slower slides for youngsters and extremely shallow waters. Those who "take no prisoners" will love the deep dips of the "adult" section. It is thoughtfully laid



## Cuba to singers: wash your potty mouth, or else

HAVANA (AFP) - Musicians that perform songs deemed vulgar or that "violate ethical standards" will now be punished in Cuba, the state-run Institute of Music said Friday. In communist Cuba, most everything -- especially the airwaves -- belongs to the government. Aside from hotels that cater to foreigners, there is no MTV, VH1 or HBO. There are no independent radio stations or newspapers. The move comes after authorities heard complaints for more than a year about "vulgar" songs from members of the state-supported intelligentsia. Authorities are currently busy "purging" music catalogs, with the goal of "eradicating any practice that is ... not in accordance with legitimate Cuban popular culture," Institute of Music head Orlando Vistel told the daily Granma. A special focus is on lyrics that are "aggressive, sexually explicit, obscene, and that twist the innate sensuality of Cuban women, presenting them as grotesque sexual objects," Vistel said. Musicians need a government permit to perform in Cuba, and violators risk losing that permit, Vistel told AFP, while officials that allow offending music to be performed risk "severe sanctions." Most of the complaints are over reggaeton songs -- a Caribbean music style that mixes reggae, hip-hop and salsa music, and often uses sexually-suggestive lyrics. Authorities are preparing a law aimed at regulating "the public uses of music" on television and radio, at concerts and in outdoor events, Vistel said.



## Cool Casino...where those in the know go to play!



The great perks of gaming at Cool Casino in the Palm Beach has created a dedicated clientele; ask them what they like about the cozy casino, and they don't know where to start! The free slot tournaments every Sunday? Major pay-offs in their weekly Blackjack tournaments every Tuesday and Friday? Ladies' night every Wednesday with entertainment from great local bands? Or perhaps just the terrific benefits of being "One Cool Member" which earns players bonus points towards additional activities, free dinners, day passes at the Riu Resort, credit for play, or best of all: hard, cool cash! The casino opens daily at 10:00 AM and on Saturdays and Sundays, all are greeted with an early

morning "Kaffie Klatch" and triple points when using their membership cards.

Cool Casino is a great place to learn to understand

blackjack tournament will keep veteran high-rollers happy, as well as periodic special events that attract an international crowd; stop by and check their schedule.

Add to all this free drinks while testing the slots or trying your hand at the tables, and the opportunity to enjoy exclusive pay-per-view major sporting events at one of their dozens of plasma screens, and you can understand why loyal patrons find Cool Casino THE fun place to play. Slot machines are open from 10:00 AM until 4:00 AM daily, and gaming tables open at 5:00 PM; ask for their schedule of special events and bonuses, as there are so many choose from, but every day offers something to get the adrena-



such table games as Craps and Roulette, as they offer free instructions and minimums for beginners with which anyone can have fun and feel very comfortable. High-stakes tables and a major weekly



## Eat like a local at The Queen's restaurant at Palm Beach Plaza



Varela, Luisa and the next generation of chef



Keshi Yena with plaintains and vegetables

An elegant décor with a breezy terrace overlooking Palm Beach welcomes guests to Varela Innocencia's very popular restaurant showcasing authentic local cuisine:

### The Queen's.

They may have moved from Oranjestad to hipper new digs in Palm Beach Plaza, but the food and prices are strictly native, which is what first won this charming eatery their loyal clientele. Varela's mom, Luisa, is still in the kitchen, conjuring up the delicious dishes that have been in her family for generations, acknowledged on the menu with items such as "Carni Stoba di Mamachi" - "Grandma's Beef Stew," and their Arawak Steak, along with local delicacies like Keshi Yena - "Full Cheese." This is a tasty, filling stew of chicken, with other ingredients that are handy that day, all incased in a thick skin of melted Gouda. It was very satisfying and particularly memorable paired with The Queen's garlic bread and very special Pica, a mix of chopped onions and the famous local hot pepper, Madame Janette. Not overly spicy, it lends that perfect bit of tang to this deliciously picturesque meal.

One of the distinctions of Aruban cuisine is incorporating unique indigenous ingredients such as in Wild Cucumber Stew and a particular light fish chowder accompanied by the local specialties pan bati (corn meal pancake) and funchi (the local version of polenta.)

Seafood main courses for Catch of the Day Aruban Style to shrimp and a mixed seafood platter with shrimp, fish, squid, scallops and mussels. Meat dishes such as BBQ Chicken and Ribs or Grilled Tenderloin, each including a choice of 2 side dishes; all quite yummy and bargain-priced to boot!

The Queen's is located on the second level of Palm Beach Plaza, tucked into a cozy corner at the front of the mall. If you have a mind to try the real deal in Aruban food, without a doubt, this is the way to truly eat like a local. They are open from 11:00 AM to 11:00 PM, daily, offering indoor and outdoor dining. Aside from an extensive menu they also have daily specials made from whatever is in season and Mama Luisa is in the mood to prepare, so don't forget to ask about what isn't on the menu!



## SPORTS

## Alpine skiing: Innerhofer wins men's World Cup downhill



BEAVER CREEK, Colorado, (AFP) - Italy's Christof Innerhofer authored a near-perfect run Friday to win men's alpine skiing World Cup downhill ahead of Norwegians Aksel Lund Svindal and Kjetil Jansrud.

Innerhofer clocked 1min 41.69sec on the "Birds of Prey" piste to beat Svindal -- winner of last weekend's downhill and super-g races at Lake Louise -- by 23-hundredths of a second.

Jansrud was 50-hundredths off the lead.

Innerhofer, the reigning super-G world champion whose pre-season training was hindered by back trouble in the wake of a road accident in July, was ecstatic with the victory.

"Today I'm crazy happy," said Innerhofer, who said his aggressive skiing on the steeper part of the course paid off.

The 27-year-old Italian captured the fourth World Cup victory of his career and his second downhill to go with one he won in Bormio in 2008.

It was a nice bounce-back after a disappointing weekend at Lake Louise, where he finished 27th in the downhill and 24th in the super-G in the first speed races of the men's World Cup season.

While he said his back is still not 100 percent, he said he was thrilled with how it's holding up to the rigors of the World Cup season.

Racing continues this weekend with a super-G and a giant slalom.

## Football: Monaco confirm Beckham interest



MONACO (AFP) - AS Monaco are interested in signing former England captain David Beckham, the second-tier French club's chief executive Tor-Kristian Karlsen told local media on Friday. The Norwegian also told sports daily L'Equipe: "We have a very young team who could benefit from a player of his (Beckham's) stature, experience and personality. Beckham's six-year playing career with Major League Soccer will end with his final game for the Los Angeles Galaxy against Houston this weekend after he announced he was looking forward to "one more challenge" outside of the MLS. The 115-times capped England player is expected to make a decision on where he will end up playing next by the end of the year. There have also been offers from China, Russia and Brazil for the former Manchester United and Real Madrid player, who has not ruled out a return to England.

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## Football: Nine-man Spartak limber up for Celtic with defeat

MOSCOW (AFP) - Spartak Moscow, who travel to Glasgow next week to take on Celtic in the Champions League, had two players sent off in their 4-2 defeat to reigning Russian champions Zenit St Petersburg on Friday.

Brazilian forward Hulk and Russian international midfielder Roman Shirokov scored one apiece, while Belgian midfielder Axel Witsel netted a double for Zenit.

Artem Dzyuba and Nigerian forward Emmanuel Emenike both scored for Spartak.

The win lifted Zenit up to 37 points, level with second-placed Anzhi Makhachkala who take on Moscow's CSKA, three points clear at the top, on Sunday.

"My team showed high-class football for the second consecutive match," Zenit manager Luciano Spalletti said.

"We came here to play a very tough match and my players showed strong character which I wanted to see so much.

"For me it was clear that my men were ready to give all they have to earn three points today. And we earned all three points and did it deservedly."

Zenit, who desperately

needed to win after losing points in their two previous Premiership matches and chances to advance into the Champions League's knockout stage, started in lively fashion and began testing Spartak's defence from the kick off.

In Friday's other match Kuban Krasnodar were beaten 2-1 by FC Krasnodar in the Southern Russian city's derby clash.

Kuban clinched the lead 10 minutes after the interval through Armenian midfielder

Araz Ozbilis, who sent the ball into the net from close range after a defensive blunder.

Krasnodar went in search of the equaliser and their full back Yevgeny Shipitsyn pulled his team level with a well-struck freekick with five minutes to go.

But Belarussian defender Alexander Martynovic netted Krasnodar's winning goal in the fourth minute of injury time from Brazilian teammate midfielder Joaozinho's well-executed freekick.

## Yachting: Vendee Globe skipper breaks distance record



PARIS (AFP) - Vendee Globe skipper Francois Gabart has lowered the 24 hour monohull Open 60 distance record held for the past nine years by British sailor Alex Thomson. France's Gabart, at the helm of his boat Macif, sailed 482.91 nautical miles between midday Thursday and midday Friday to pass Thomson's previous best mark set in 2003 by 14.19 miles. Gabart, who is lying third in the non stop, single-handed round the world yacht race, was sailing at an average speed of 20.1 knots. Gabart's record, announced by Vendee Globe organisers, must still be ratified by the World Sailing Speed Racing Council.







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## NFL: Falcons snap Brees' touchdown streak

ATLANTA (AFP) - Atlanta intercepted New Orleans quarterback Drew Brees five times and ended his pass touchdown streak in a 23-13 win over the Saints.

Matt Ryan completed 18-of-33 passes for 165 yards with a touchdown for the Falcons at the Georgia Dome stadium.

Atlanta (11-1) also avenged their lone defeat of the season and snapped a four-game losing skid to New Orleans.

Atlanta can clinch the NFC South Division title with a Tampa Bay loss or tie at Denver on Sunday.

A loss or tie by Seattle at

Chicago on Sunday will secure a playoff spot for the Falcons.

New Orleans meanwhile saw its postseason hopes dim because of its second-consecutive loss.

Brees failed to throw a touchdown pass for the first time since the fourth week of the 2009 season, snapping his NFL-record streak at 54 games. Brees finished with 341 yards passing Thursday.

Meanwhile, Pittsburgh Steelers coach Mike Tomlin said Charlie Batch would likely be his quarterback for Sunday's game against the AFC North-leading Baltimore Ravens.

Ben Roethlisberger has missed Pittsburgh's last two games with shoulder and rib injuries, but the veteran began practicing again on Monday. Tomlin didn't rule out having Roethlisberger start but said he is leaning towards Batch.



**Drew Brees #9 of the New Orleans Saints passes against the Atlanta Falcons**

"Right now, Charlie Batch is our quarterback," Tomlin said.

Tomlin is trying to get any competitive advantage he can

against Baltimore, which could clinch the AFC North Division with a win Sunday. The Ravens have won 15

straight regular season home games.

Barring a miracle, Batch, 37, will play against the Ravens as the Steelers try to halt their two-game losing streak, which began with a loss to Baltimore two Sundays ago.

Byron Leftwich made that start in place of Roethlisberger and grinded it out despite playing with broken ribs.

Third stringer Batch struggled in Cleveland last Sunday when Pittsburgh committed eight turnovers in its loss to the Browns. It was the first eight-turnover game in the NFL since St. Louis against New Orleans in 2001.

Other games on Sunday include: Houston at Tennessee, New England at Miami, Indianapolis at Detroit, Jacksonville at Buffalo, Carolina at Kansas City, Arizona at NY Jets, San Francisco at St. Louis, Minnesota at Green Bay, Seattle at Chicago, Tampa Bay at Denver, Cleveland at Oakland, Cincinnati at San Diego and Philadelphia at Dallas.

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## Former NY Giant Michael Strahan among 27 semifinalists for Pro Football Hall of Fame

--Former Giants All-Pro defensive end Michael Strahan is among the 27 semifinalists for the Pro Football Hall of Fame class of 2013 in his first year of eligibility, joining former Giants and Jets coach Bill Parcells and the late former Giants general manager George Young. The list, announced Friday, will be reduced to 15 finalists in early January and then a maximum of five modern era candidates and two senior candidates can be selected for induction when the 44 selectors convene on Feb. 2 in New Orleans, one day before Super Bowl XLVII. Strahan, who played his entire 15-year career with the Giants, retired after the Super Bowl XLII upset of the undefeated Patriots following the 2007 season. He holds the NFL single-season record for sacks with 22.5 in 2001. Newcomers, presented in the politically correct alphabetic order by the Hall of Fame, are guard/tackle Larry Allen (1994-2007, Cowboys, 49ers), kicker Morten Andersen (1982-2004, Saints, Falcons, Giants, Chiefs, Vikings), safety John Lynch (1993-2007, Buccaneers, Broncos), offensive tackle Jonathan Ogden (1996-2007, Ravens), defensive tackle Warren Sapp (1995-2004, Buccaneers, Raiders) and defensive end Michael Strahan (1993-2007, Giants).



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## NBA: Spurs' motley crew gives Heat all they can handle, while Rondo get suspended



**Spurs sit Duncan, Parker and Ginobili during Thursday night's game against the Heat**

MIAMI (AFP) - A mixed bag of San Antonio Spur bench warmers almost handed the defending NBA champion Miami Heat their first home loss of the season in a matchup that had been billed as a preview of the NBA finals.

The Heat appeared to be headed for a humiliating loss but they survived the mighty scare to beat the Spurs 105-100 behind a 20-8 closing run and 23 points from LeBron James at AmericanAirlines Arena.

San Antonio coach Gregg Popovich didn't have his top five scorers for their final game of their six-game road trip. That meant no Tony Parker, Manu Ginobili or Tim Duncan, all of whom stayed home to rest.

The matchup had been highly anticipated as one between two of the NBA's elite teams before Popovich decided to leave his stars at home.

NBA commissioner David Stern was upset with the move and said San Antonio would face "substantial sanctions" for resting so many star players at once.

"I apologize to all NBA fans," Stern said in a statement. "This was an unacceptable decision by the San

Antonio Spurs and substantial sanctions will be forthcoming."

Ray Allen hit a go-ahead three-pointer with 22.6 seconds left as the Heat came through over the short-handed Spurs.

Allen scored 11 of his 20 points in the fourth quarter, while James finished with nine rebounds and seven assists to lead the Heat to their fifth consecutive win. Miami needed a 12-2 run over the final two minutes.

Dwyane Wade added 19 points and Chris Bosh finished with 18 points and 12 rebounds for the Heat, who improved to 7-0 at home.

Miami has also won 11 in a row at AmericanAirlines Arena dating back to last year's postseason.

Gary Neal had 20 points and Tiago Splitter finished with 18 for San Antonio.

Starting guard Danny Green was also held out for the Spurs, who had won the first five games of their six-game road swing.

While in New York Boston Celtics point guard Rajon Rondo was suspended for two games by the NBA on Thursday, a day after he was ejected from a game against the Brooklyn Nets for fighting.

Rondo was deemed the instigator of the brawl, which sent players sprawling into court-side seats as the first half of the clash between the Atlantic Division rivals was winding down.

Rondo charged at Humphries and swung at him, although the scuffle involved mostly pushing and shoving. No one was injured.

Rondo was thrown out of the game, ending his streak of consecutive contests with double-digit assists at 37.



**Paul Pierce #34 and Rajon Rondo #9 of the Boston Celtics fight with Kris Humphries #43 of the Brooklyn Nets**



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